## IE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors:

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Nicholas L. Abbott

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Justin J. Skaife

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Examiner:

My-Chau T. Tran

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTION OF MICROSCOPIC PATHOGENS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 3, 2002. Bernard P. Friedrichsen (Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative)

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

July 3, 2002 (Date of Signature)

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in reply to a non-final Office Action mailed April 5, 2002, in relation to the above-captioned application. The three-month shortened statutory period for response to the Official Action is set to expire on July 5, 2002. Accordingly, Applicants believe that this